

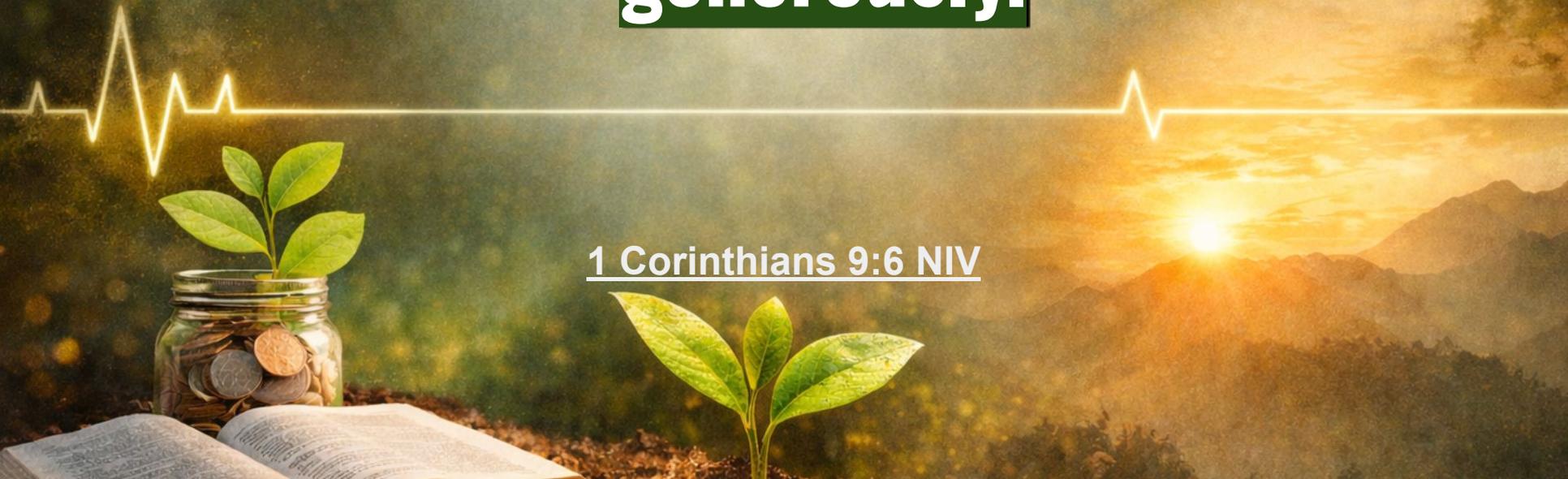
# SPIRITUAL HEALTH

INVEST. GROW. MATURE.



**Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.**

1 Corinthians 9:6 NIV



**Each of you should give what you have  
decided in your heart to give, not  
reluctantly or under compulsion, for God  
loves a cheerful giver.**

1 Corinthians 9:7 NIV



# Give Generously

- ❑ Don't give out of coercion
- ❑ Giving should come from the heart
- ❑ We get to give to God and we choose to give to God



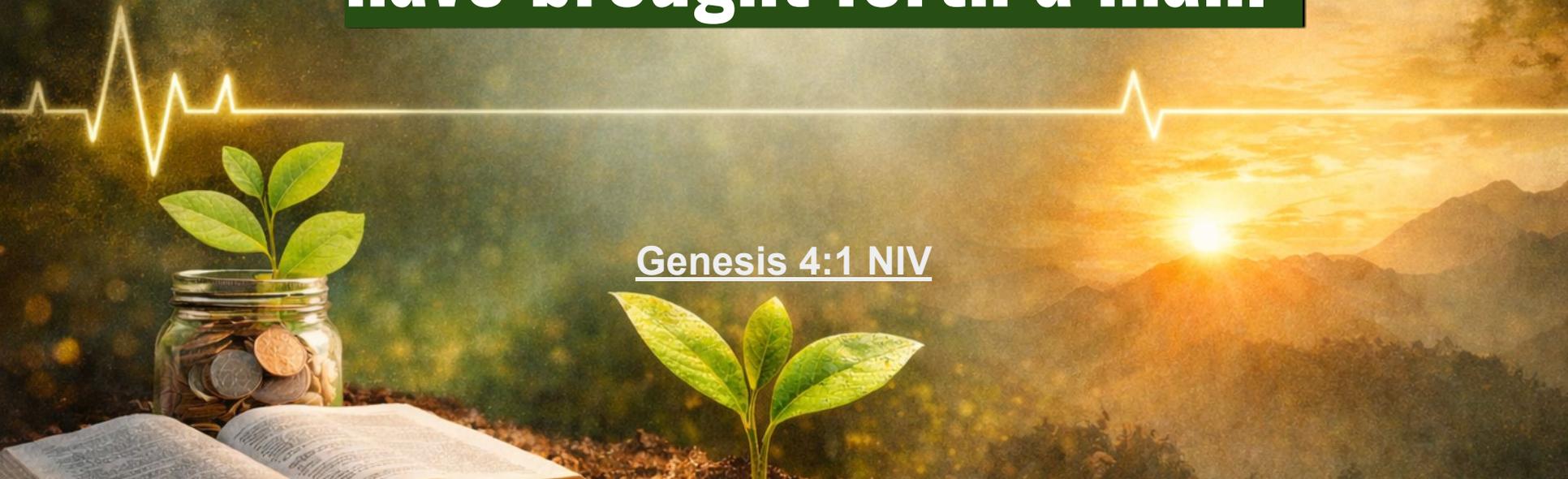
# **Punchline**

**Give with open hearts not clenched fists**



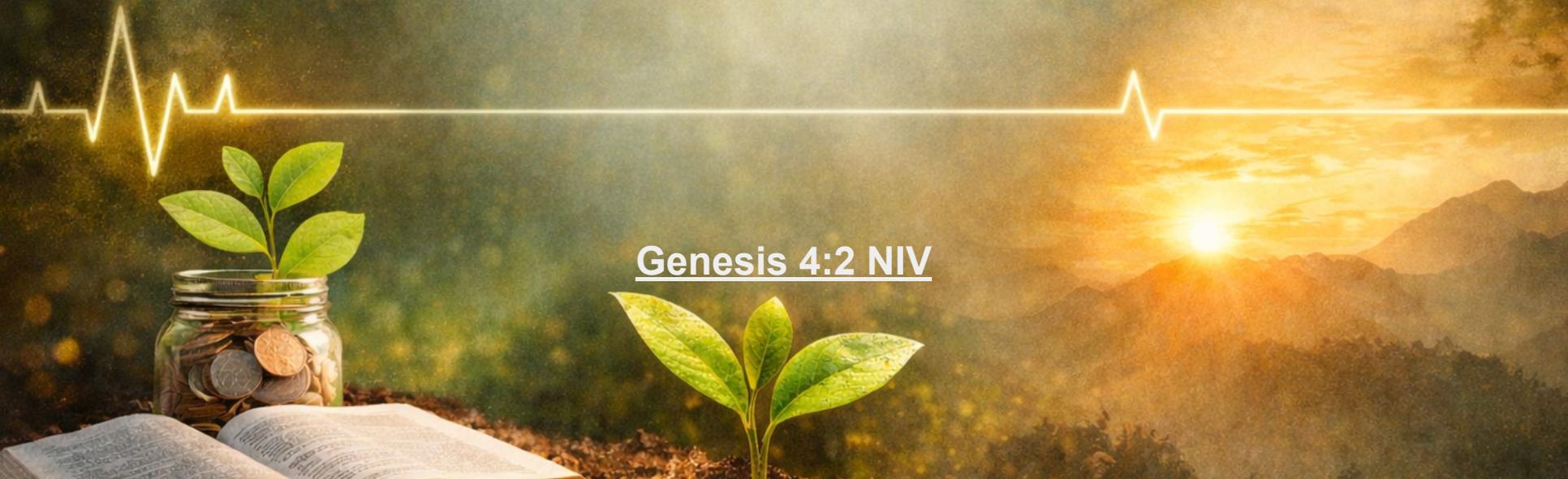
**Adam made love to his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, "With the help of the Lord I have brought forth a man."**

Genesis 4:1 NIV



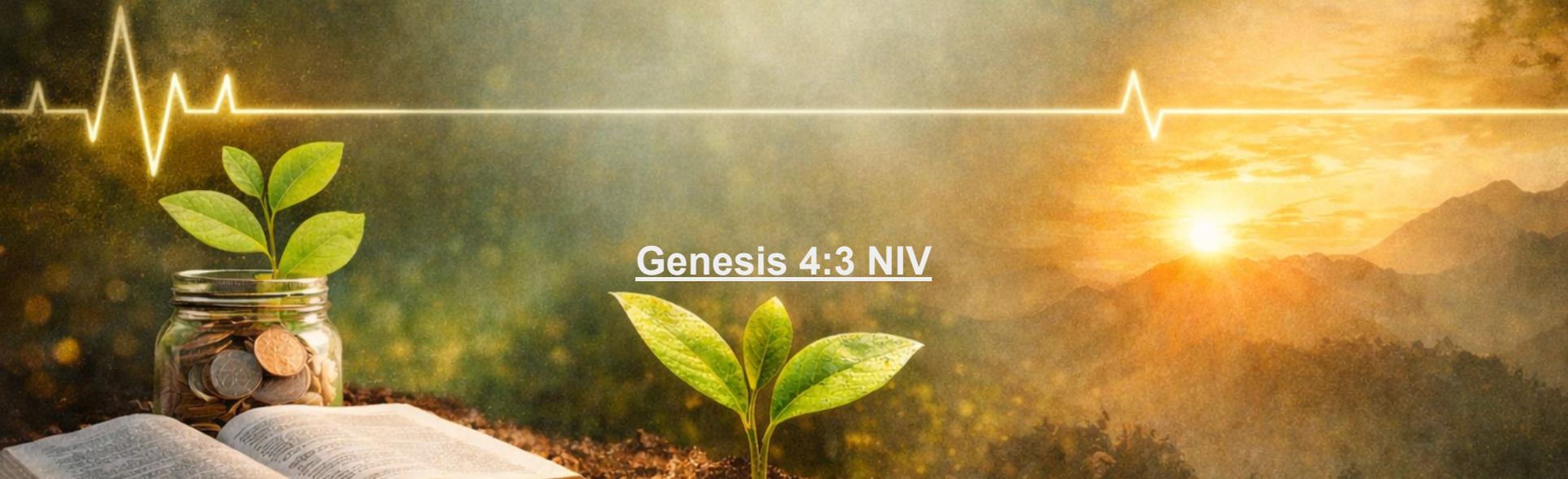
**Later she gave birth to his brother Abel.  
Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked  
the soil.**

Genesis 4:2 NIV



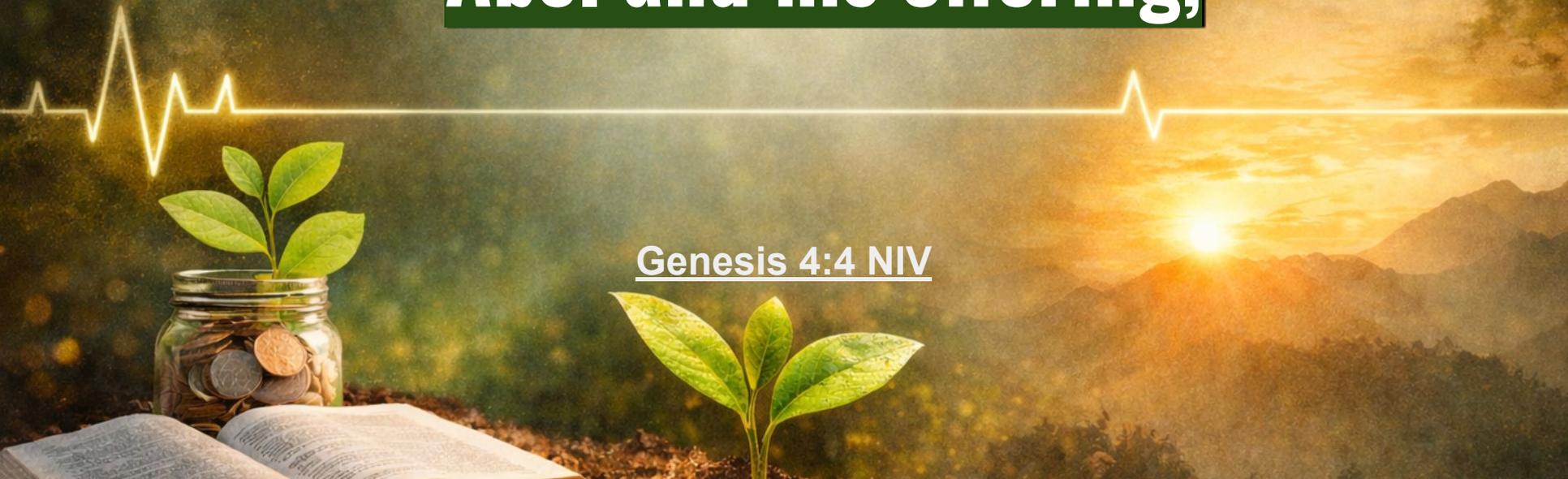
**In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the Lord.**

Genesis 4:3 NIV



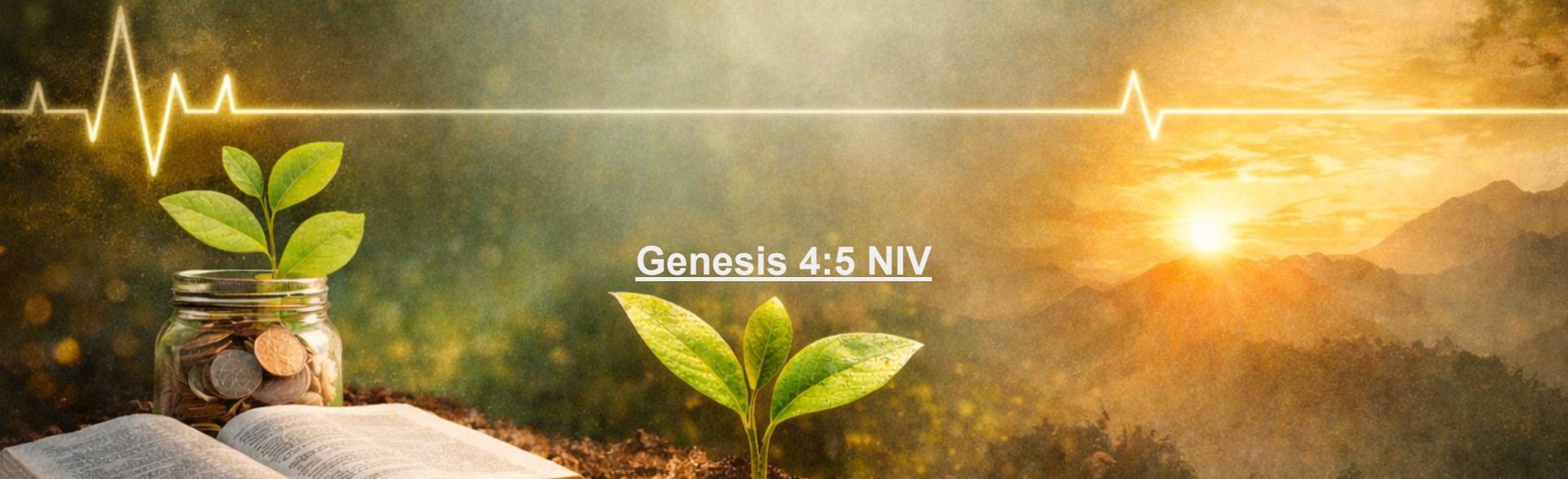
**And Abel also brought an offering—fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The Lord looked with favor on Abel and his offering,**

Genesis 4:4 NIV



**But on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.**

Genesis 4:5 NIV



# Cain and Abel

- ❑ Cain - older brother/worked the land
- ❑ Abel - younger brother/had flocks
- ❑ Abel brought fattened portions of the firstborn
- ❑ Cain brought leftovers



**GIVE YOUR**

**BEST**

# Give Your Best

- ☐ Give to God before anything else
- ☐ Look at everything God has given you first
- ☐ Give back to God based on what God has given you
- ☐ Trust God



**As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich  
putting their gifts into the temple  
treasury**

Luke 21: 1 NIV



**He also saw a poor widow put in two very  
small copper coins.**

Luke 21: 2 NIV



**“Truly I tell you,” he said, “this poor widow has put in more than all the others.”**

Luke 21: 3 NIV



**All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.”**

Luke 21: 4 NIV



# The Widow's Offering

- ❑ Poor widow gives two small coins
- ❑ Many others gave large sums of money
- ❑ The poor widow gave more than the others
- ❑ For Jesus it's about the sacrifice



IT'S ABOUT  
THE  
SACRIFICE



# Give Sacrificially

- ❑ Financial giving should be sacrificial
- ❑ God will comfort you in the discomfort of a financial situation
- ❑ Think about what's going to be not what could have been



**Jesus called them together and said,  
“You know that the rulers of the Gentiles  
lord it over them, and their high officials  
exercise authority over them.**

Matthew 20: 25 NIV



**Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants  
to become great among you must be  
your servant,**

Matthew 20: 26 NIV



**And whoever wants to be first must be  
your slave**

Matthew 20: 27 NIV



**Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”**

Matthew 20: 28 NIV



# Serve Not To Be Served

- ❑ James and John want to be on the right and left hands of Jesus in His Kingdom
- ❑ They were thinking in earthly kingdom terms
- ❑ To be great - you need to serve



*Be the  
Supporting Cast*

# Give Yourself By Serving

- ❑ **Serve to serve - don't serve to be seen**
- ❑ **Serve for the sake of the other person**
- ❑ **Serve the need not your need to serve**



# Ways To Serve At Hometown

- Tear down
- Greeting
- Sound/Tech
- Worship
- Kids
- Outreach



**“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag,[a] each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey.”**

Matthew 25: 14-15 NIV



**The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.**

Matthew 25: 16-18 NIV



**“After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’**

Matthew 25: 19-20 NIV



**“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’ ‘The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’**

[Matthew 25: 21-22 NIV](#)



**“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’**

Matthew 25: 23 NIV



**“Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed.”**

Matthew 25: 24 NIV



**So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’ “His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed?’**

Matthew 25: 25-26 NIV



**Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.**

Matthew 25: 27 NIV



**“So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.**

Matthew 25: 28-29 NIV



**And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'**

Matthew 25: 30 NIV



# The Faithful Servant

- ❑ A master trusts his servants with money
- ❑ First two put money to use and earn more
- ❑ Third buries it to not lose it
- ❑ Master is impressed with the first two
- ❑ Master is upset with the third servant



# Serve Faithfully

- ☐ Serve well with what you're given
- ☐ We are all given different things
- ☐ Put your gifts to use for God
- ☐ Don't hide or bury your gift



# Serve Faithfully

- ❑ Well done good and faithful servant
- ❑ The heart, the call, the smile from God is from being a servant



# Wrap Up

- ☐ Give God your first and best
- ☐ Give sacrificially
- ☐ Give yourself by serving
- ☐ Serve faithfully
- ☐ Give to God and give with an open heart

